

REMARKS

The present filing is responsive to the Final Office Action.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant submitted an Information Disclosure Statement on August 10, 2007. However, the Examiner did not indicate consideration of the references cited in such Statement. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner indicating in the records that the references cited in such Statement has been duly considered.

Summary of the Response

Claims 1, 11 and 20 have been amended. Claims 1-20 remain pending in this application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the present application as amended are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC 103

Claims 1-3, 8-13 and 18-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Akiyama et al. (US 6,577,360) in view of Onishi et al. (US 5,814,378). Claims 4-5, 7, 14-15 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Akiyama et al. in view of Onishi et al., further in view of Kubo et al. (US Patent No. 6,124,919). Claims 6, 16 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Akiyama et al. in view of Onishi et al. and Kubo et al., further in view of Maruyama et al. (US 2002/0093612). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

While Applicant does not agree with the obviousness rejections, in the interest of forwarding this case to early allowance, Applicant amended independent claims 1, 11 and 20 to require that the optical light scattering film is located between the polarizer and the substrate. The primary cited reference Akiyama does not disclose such structure. Referring to Fig. 9 in Akiyama, the polarizer 12 is between the light diffusing film 17 and the substrate. None of the secondary references make up for the deficiencies of Akiyama. Accordingly, even if Akiyama can and should be combined with any of the secondary cited references, such combination would not obtain the structure recited in independent claims 1, 11 and 20 as amended, namely the optical light scattering film is located between the polarizer and the substrate.

A further point worth mentioning is that in Onishi, col. 12, lines 57-66, the stated purpose for minimizing retardation in the liquid crystal layer is to prevent elliptic polarization. In contrast, the present invention use a low retardation liquid crystal layer together with the recited front optical stack, the use of compensation films may be avoided. Accordingly, the design purpose of the present invention is completely different from that offered by the teaching of Onishi, whether standing alone or in combination with Akiyama. Accordingly, it would not have been obvious to combine Akiyama and Onishi in the matter suggested only by the Examiner.

Given the patentability of independent claims 1, 11 and 20, all dependent claims are likewise patentable for at least the reasons given above.

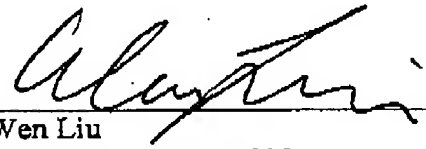
CONCLUSION

In view of all the foregoing, Applicant submits that the claims pending in this application are patentable over the references of record and are in condition for allowance. Such action at an early date is earnestly solicited. **The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned representative to discuss any outstanding issues that may not have been adequately addressed in this response.**

The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this transmittal and associated documents, or to credit any overpayment to **Deposit Account No. 501288** referencing the attorney docket number of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Wen Liu
Registration No. 32,822

LIU & LIU
444 S. Flower Street; Suite 1750
Los Angeles, California 90071
Telephone: (213) 830-5743
Facsimile: (213) 830-5741
Email: wliu@liulaw.com